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DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/CE JAMIE LAMORE, IO/MPR BRIAN HACKETT

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/08/2019

TAGS: PREL UNGA KAWC KJUS KUNR AORC APER HU

SUBJECT: HUNGARY NONCOMMITTAL ON U.S. CANDIDATE FOR UN ICSC

REF: SECSTATE 55499

Classified By: Acting Pol/Econ Counselor Jon Martinson, for reasons 1.4 (b,d)

- 11. (U) EmbOffs delivered ref talking points on June 5 to Eva Gergaly-Lukacs, Desk Officer in the Department of International Organizations, GOH Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ms. Gergaly-Lukacs did not give any indication of which candidates the GOH will support for election to the Commission, but did say that Greece had already approached the GOH asking for support via note verbale. The Italians and Germans have not yet contacted the GOH.
- 12. (U) Ms. Gergaly-Lucas said she expects Hungary to reveal which candidates it will support no earlier than September. She said the final decision may hinge on the outcome of Hungary's candidacy for the UN Joint Inspection Unit (JIU). Hungary currently holds a position on the JIU through December 2010 and plans to seek re-election. Bulgaria has expressed interest in vying for Hungary's position, touching off negotiations between the two countries through which Hungary hopes to convince Bulgaria to drop out. If Hungary cannot dissuade Bulgaria, Ms. Gergaly-Lucas said the GOH would be looking for the USG's support for their candidate.
- 13. (C) Comment: Although not said explicitly, Ms. Gergaly-Lucas appeared to suggest Hungary would support the U.S. candidate for the ICSC quid pro quo. End comment.

Levine